

Dollars Torture to Germans

Sent by Friends in the United States, Relatives Hesitate to Exchange Them.

CROWD BANK LOBBIES DAILY

Watch Fluctuations in Doubt Whether They Should Sell or Wait—When Rumor of Rise Starts Line Thins Rapidly.

Berlin.—Moralists seeking to prepare sermons upon the curse of riches might find convincing material daily in the crowded lobbies of Berlin banks. There are gathered the most unhappy people of Berlin—the poor with American dollars.

Perhaps there is nothing more coveted today than dollars. All Germany has literally gone mad over the desire to possess them. Imagination has placed their value far above their actual worth and as a result of this palpitating anticipation realization brings the bitter fear that the precious dollar in hand is not buying every possible mark. The magic coin changes over night the German who has been railing at the visitors from countries with high "valuata" to theoretical capitalist hoping that on the day he cashes his dollar the mark will go utterly to pot.

Large Sums Sent From America.

And it is the poor who are now receiving the coveted currency. Hundreds of Germans in America, hearing of the crash of German marks, have sent checks, drafts and postal orders for sums from \$5 to \$50 to poor relatives. They flock to the banks when the doors open in the morning, watch the figures on the bulletin boards announcing the fluctuations of the exchange, tremblingly approach the cashiers and then decide to wait for one more hour in the hope that the trend may be upward again. Perhaps the next hour brings a drop of one or two points. Panic-stricken the holders of small checks besiege the windows to unload their holdings before there is a further drop.

A prosperous stranger who has no dollars to cash, however, enters. He is overheard by a timid seller telling some friend that he had it straight from the ministry of finance that the

mark is going to drop heavily in a few days.

Rumors Cause Tortures.

The dollar holders nearest the window swallow rising lumps in their throats and the line begins to thin out rapidly. At this moment the bulletin board shows an encouraging rise and the perspiring dollar holders go through a living torture. They either end by cashing their checks for whatever they can get or by leaving the bank completely crushed by indecision. Likely they have lost a half or a whole day's work and still hold their crumpled checks and their deep determination to get all the marks possible for them. If the mark falls the next day they wait for a still further drop.

Arkansas Town Owned by Man

Robert E. Lee Wilson Rules Small Village Like Baron of Feudal Times.

PLACE HAS NO POLICEMEN

Wilson City, Ark., With Population of 1,800, Gets Along Without Ordinances and All Courts, But Everybody Must Work.

Little Rock, Ark.—Wilson, in Mississippi county, Ark., is a one-man town. It has no courthouse or city hall, no ordinances, no police force. When taxes fall due, the collector has only to go to Robert E. Lee Wilson and say: "Mr. Wilson, give me a check for taxes on everything in sight."

Wilson writes the check, covering all of the land and physical assets in a town of 1,800 population and enough of the surrounding farm and lumber country to total more than 40,000 acres of territory, said to be rivaled in productivity only by the valley of the Nile.

The town of Wilson has only one law

If it rises they experience a little more mental anguish until the tide turns backward.

Another phase of the wholesale receipt of presents from abroad is that bricklayers and hodcarriers of yesterday have turned into students of economics. The pages of financial papers, so strange to the ordinary workman, now assume the interest of popular novels. They are perused vainly for authentic information as to whether or not the mark is going up or down on the morrow, in spite of the fact that financial prognostications are not like those of the weather bureau. It is a futile search, however, and in the end the holder of dollars merely goes deeper into the mire of indecision and in the end learns the unhappiness that can come from the possession of the world's greatest currency.

Citronella Might Help.

Adv. in English paper—"For Sale. A rustic cottage to be sold by a lady covered with creepers."—Boston Transcript.

and that is unwritten. It is that everybody must work. There are no idle men in the town and vagrants are not tolerated. There can be no undesirable citizens because Wilson, who owns all the houses, will not rent homes to undesirable.

Homes Are Modern.

Everybody in Wilson is a renter. Even the one man who owns and runs the town writes a check, payable to himself, every month for \$45. That is the highest rent paid, and only two other citizens pay that much. Other tenants pay \$12.50 to \$27.50 a month, with a few exceptions, where the rentals are \$30 to \$40.

Every home in Wilson, whether it is a three-room cottage or a mansion, is equipped with electric lights, tub and shower baths, hot and cold water, telephone, hedge, flower garden, truck patch and chicken yard.

Wilson has industries that represent a total investment of \$1,000,000. These produce annually nearly \$2,000,000 worth of manufactured hardwood lumber, ginned cotton, flour meal, and mixed feed. The raw material for these products comes from a 40,000-acre tract of cultivated and timbered land, all owned by Wilson. The principal agricultural products are cotton, corn, wheat and alfalfa.

Wilson's 18 cotton plantations, with a total area of 8,000 acres, will produce this year 6,000 bales of cotton. Corn was harvested from 6,000 acres, wheat from 1,200 acres, and alfalfa from 800 acres. The farm is so big that Wilson employs his own agricultural expert and a general plantation manager who has supervision over 18 zone managers.

Got Start in Sawmill.

There is no season of idleness in the town. When the harvest is over, the farmhands are put to clearing land or working in the logging and timber industry. Wilson is now reputed to have a fortune of more than \$10,000,000. He began operations with a small sawmill on the site of the town which bears his name.

With the profits from the sawmill he bought up land a parcel at a time. Now, at fifty-seven years old, he owns timbered and cultivated land enough to make a fair-sized county. His territory is 27 miles long and eight miles wide.

In this section of the country Wilson was one of the first to take up diversified farming.

Then, too, Robert E. Lee Wilson has a hobby—education. He has sent many young men and women to college, financing them all the way through.

MORE MEN ARE NOW ON FARMS

Sex Ratio Is 109.1 Males to 100 Females, Statistics Show.

Census Bureau Figures That Larger Number of Women Than Men Are Leaving Farms for Other Fields of Endeavor.

Washington.—Larger numbers of women than men are leaving the farms in search of more lucrative fields of endeavor, the census bureau says, basing its statement on an analysis of the 1920 census statistics.

The enumeration shows the ratio of males to females was higher for farm population than for the total population, despite the fact that the foreign-born element, in which the males considerably outnumber the females, is found mainly in the cities.

The sex ratio of farm population on January 1, 1920, was 109.1 males to

100 females, while the ratio for the entire population was 104 males to 100 females.

Of the number of farm dwellers, totaling 31,614,269, males number 16,496,338 and females 15,117,931. Of the total farm population 49.5 per cent was twenty-one years and over, 24.7 per cent between ten and twenty years, and 25.7 per cent under ten years. Those twenty-one years and over numbered 15,632,068. For the country as a whole those 21 years and over comprised 57.6 per cent of the total population.

The farm population, therefore, includes a relatively large proportion of persons under twenty-one and a relatively small proportion twenty-one years and over.

The difference in age distribution is declared by the census bureau to be due largely to the fact that the majority of persons who leave the farm to take up their residence elsewhere have reached twenty-one.

THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Copy for This Department Supplied by The American Legion News Service.)

BLIND MAN MEETS OLD BUDDY

British Hero, Here to Attend Inter-allied Veterans' Convention, Recognizes Voice of Former Comrade.

Although he is totally blind, Capt. William Appleby of Great Britain was one of the most cheerful delegates to the inter-allied Veterans' association convention which met in New Orleans in conjunction with the American Legion national gathering.

Captain Appleby was especially happy when the delegation of war heroes stopped in Indianapolis on the way from New Orleans, for only a few minutes before his arrival there he had met, by strange coincidence, a man whom he had not seen nor heard of for twenty-two years, but who was in his regiment, Lancashire Fusiliers in 1900, and who was born only ten miles from him in England. Captain Appleby recognized him by his voice.

As Alfred Ernest Evans, an Indianapolis engineer, walked through the train as a member of the Indianapolis committee to welcome the heroes, he was stopped by an Englishman who asked his name.

"My name, sir, is Evans," he replied. "Alfred Evans, of the Lancashire Fusiliers?" he was asked.

"Yes, sir. Who are you?"

"Captain William Appleby, your former regimental commander."

And then they began, busily recalling incidents of the South African battles they fought together in 1900.

"I recognized Mr. Evans' voice the minute I heard it," the English hero said.

Captain Appleby lost his sight in the second battle of Ypres. He has also been wounded 29 times. His pretty nineteen-year-old daughter Olga, his constant companion and his "eyes" since he lost his sight, accompanied him on the American trip.

GUDE IS AN EXPERT OARSMAN

Washington (D. C.) Legionnaire, Carries Off Junior, Intermediate and Association Prizes.

It takes years to produce a good oarsman, rowing experts claim, but Granville Gude, a Washington, D. C., member of the American Legion, won one of the biggest national contests after he had been rowing only six weeks, thereby establishing a precedent in the sporting world.

Gude won the junior, intermediate and association events in one afternoon with only short intervals of rest between races at the Middle States' regatta.

The Washington Legionnaire is at his best in the sculling races and is expected by his buddies to win a national championship one of these days.

She Gets Along.

A young married woman full of idealism, met an older woman, also married.

"How is your husband?" asked the bride.

"Pretty well, I think. He works so hard I see him about one hour a day."

"Oh, you poor thing. How I sympathize!"

"Oh, no, dear. It's all right—the hour soon goes."—American Legion Weekly.

All Prisoners Were Released.

All prisoners, white and black, serving time in the Jacksonville (Fla.) prison for misdemeanors and who fought in the World war as American soldiers, were released with suspended sentences in order that they might participate in an Armistice day parade.

Total Blank.

Kriess—I don't think he knows much. Kriess—I believe he doesn't even suspect anything.—American Legion Weekly.

BEST INFORMED LEGION MAN

Columbia (S. C.) Committeeman Up on All Hospitalization and Rehabilitation Questions.

"The best informed American Legion member in this country on all questions dealing with hospitalization and rehabilitation," is the way Alvin Owsley, Legion commandeer, describes Joe Sparks of Columbia, S. C., newly-appointed chairman of the Legion's national rehabilitation committee.

The ability of Mr. Sparks to co-operate with the United States Veterans'

bureau was also named by Mr. Owsley as one of his strongest recommendations. Mr. Sparks' work as Legion liaison representative at the headquarters of the Fifth United States Veterans' bureau district has drawn national attention to such an extent that Legion headquarters has received a flood of telegrams from the North and West urging his appointment since the Legion convention.

During Mr. Sparks' term the Fifth district was rated more than 92 per cent efficient, the highest of all 14 districts. Out of a total of 2,000 patients in ex-service hospitals, 2,100 veterans have been rated total temporary disability and 499 claims are being adjudicated.

Although Mr. Sparks was well over the draft age, he served as a "buck private" in the Fifty-seventh and Third Pioneers during the World war. Mr. Sparks was born in Laurens county, S. C., thirty-seven years ago. Later he went to Columbia, where he got a job as a newspaper reporter. He was city editor of the Columbia State, one of the most influential newspapers in the South, when he enlisted.

Returning from the army, Mr. Sparks became connected with a large New York life insurance company. His work with the Legion has been in Atlanta and in New York.

THAT WELCOME COOKIE JAR

Recent Addition to Hospitals, Provided by the American Legion Auxiliary, Is Welcomed by Veterans.

If you imagine for a minute that the veterans in the military hospitals throughout the country don't appreciate the cookie jars which the American Legion Auxiliary established re-



The Hospital Cookie Jar.

cently, just note the expressions on the faces of these three ex-soldiers.

These veterans are from the Government hospital at Kansas City and the National Military home at Leavenworth. At the present rate of consumption, patients from these two hospitals will have eaten in the course of a year cookies which if placed side by side would extend 12 miles. Some cookies!

Southern States in Lead.

Southern states lead the American Legion in membership increase, in proportion to last year, according to results announced November 1. The leaders are Georgia, 1,656; Arkansas, 1,478; Louisiana, 1,466; North Carolina, 1,351, and New Mexico, 1,294. Legion officials attribute the leadership of the South to the fact that greater interest was aroused in the Legion by the holding of its 1922 national convention in New Orleans.

"Victory Day" in France.

Hereafter November 11 each year will be a legal holiday in France under the name of Victory day. A resolution making it so was unanimously adopted by the senate. Backed by the American Legion, laws have been enacted in a number of states designating Armistice day as a legal holiday.

Dedicated New Capitol.

Nebraska's new state capitol building at Lincoln, was dedicated by Alvin Owsley, national commander of the American Legion.

Lincoln Statue Given Louisville



Scene at the dedication of a new statue of Abraham Lincoln in Louisville, Ky. It is the work of George Grey Barnard and was given to the city by L. W. Bernheim, whose little granddaughter is seen unveiling the figure.

Man Ends Life by Sitting on Shell; Blown to Bits

London.—A Cologne telegram quoted by "The Westminster Gazette" states that at the village of Opladen a man, tired of life, sat on a shell, lit the fuse and waited the explosion by which he was blown to fragments. His fiancée, mother and friends who saw what he was doing tried to stop him and were all severely injured by the explosion.

Thirty Letters in Student's Name.

London.—In the list of matriculation examinations in Ceylon, Colombo, for the University of London, appears a name which can be written, with care, but which, outside of Ceylon, has not yet been properly pronounced. It is "Nana yakkarakodakandearachiche Harmanis de Silva Wijesekera."